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ABSTRACT

This publication was developed by the Reference and Adult Services Division/Machine-Assisted Reference Section/User Access to Services committee of the 1993 ALA (American Library Association) Midwinter meeting, and was designed for archivists, publishers, librarians, and associates in research centers and societies. Information is presented on how to turn valuable, but invisible print resources into more valuable and highly visible electronic resources, identifies electronic publishing alternatives, as well as information on free,commercial services. Several electronic formats are identified that could be used for making information or resources available to users. Brief definitions of those formats, pointers for where to go for more information, comparisons, case studies of successful projects, and an extensive list of material currently available are included. Costly as well as largely cost-free alternatives are outlined. This guide does not give technical instruction for making materials available electronically; it is meant to assist the decision-making process, but not to teach the production process. Sections include: "Case Studies"; "Working With Vendors: Issues to Consider"; "Electronic Formats"; "Electronic Format Comparisons"; and "Electronic Access to America's Diversity: A Resource List," which covers the following diversity groups and subjects: African-Americans; Asian-Americans; bilingualism; gays/lesbians/bisexuals; Hispanics; minorities in general; Native Americans; and women's studies. (MAS)

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